

RICHLAND AREA CHAMBER & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

# CHAMBERLINK

MAY 2026



Team Appreciation Day.

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Mansfield, OH 44902  
Phone: (419) 522-3211  
[info@richlandareachamber.com](mailto:info@richlandareachamber.com)



## A Time for New Beginnings

### Jessica Gribben, OhioCED

*President & CEO*

Spring has a way of reminding us that new beginnings are always possible, and here at the Richland Area Chamber and Economic Development, we are feeling that energy in a big way.

I am thrilled to announce the hiring of **Jeff Parton** as our new Economic and Community Development Director for Shelby, effective June 1st. Jeff brings more than 25 years of experience in banking, business development and community leadership, and most recently served as a business development officer with Park National Bank, where he built a strong reputation for building relationships and connecting community partners. Those who know Jeff know that he doesn't just talk about getting things done, he does them.

Jeff's deep roots in community service speak for themselves. He has volunteered with NAMI Richland County, the Richland County Land Bank, Downtown Mansfield Inc., Mansfield Rotary Club, the Chamber Ambassador program, the United Way, and more. He is not new to this community, he is woven into it. That is exactly the kind of leader Shelby needs, and exactly why we couldn't be more confident in this hire.

In his new role, Jeff will work with the Shelby Community Improvement Corporation, local businesses, elected officials and regional partners to advance priorities including downtown redevelopment, housing investment and long-term planning. Much like the season itself, Jeff's arrival signals fresh momentum and exciting possibilities for Shelby and all of northern Richland County. We can't wait to see what he helps us build!

We also have another exciting announcement to share. Please join me in congratulating **Evan Stuart** on his well-deserved promotion to Operations and Government Affairs Manager! Evan's journey with our organization is a wonderful example of what happens when talent meets dedication. He came to us as a Marketing and Communications intern and wasted no time proving himself, stepping up with creativity, a strong work ethic, and a genuine willingness to pitch in wherever needed. Over time, he took on greater responsibility across marketing, operations, and legislative initiatives, and he has excelled at every turn.

In his new role, Evan will lead day-to-day operations, coordinate legislative and advocacy efforts, and continue strengthening the connections between our members, community, and local leaders. Raised on a generational farm in northern Richland County and a



proud graduate of Crestview High School, Evan earned his Associate's Degree in Business Administration and Marketing from North Central State College and is currently continuing his education at Franklin University, pursuing degrees in Marketing and Management and Leadership. He is exactly the kind of home-grown talent that makes Richland County special, and we are so proud to see him grow right alongside this organization.

Spring also has us reflecting on the wonderful people who make Richland County's business community so vibrant, and that brings me to our recent **Team Appreciation Day!** What a celebration it was! We went all-in on the 80's theme, and the energy in the room was absolutely electric. More importantly, the day gave us a meaningful opportunity to honor the incredible teams behind the businesses that keep Richland County moving forward every single day. From the employees who show up with dedication to the leaders who invest in their people, it was a joy to celebrate all of you.

This is a great time to be part of the Richland Area business community. We have new talent, renewed energy, and a lot of exciting work ahead. As always, thank you for your continued partnership and support. We are here for you, and we can't wait to see what this season brings.

Warmly,

**Jessica Gribben, OhioCED**

*President & CEO, Richland Area Chamber and Economic Development*



### **Park National Bank**

At **Park National Bank**, it's about more than money. It's about building relationships, making a positive impact in communities and helping people take care of what matters most to them.

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We offer personal, home and business loans, a brand-new menu of deposit accounts, digital banking solutions, retirement planning and trust services, and more. Our size and strength give you flexible, secure banking options and convenience with extensive ATM coverage and branches all over Richland County.

We're a community bank at our core. That's why to us, you're more than an account number. You're someone with hopes and dreams, and we want to help you accomplish them. To us, you'll always mean more.

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# Big health benefits for small businesses



You put everything you have into your business. And we put everything into creating high-quality health insurance plans for you and your employees. We've partnered with the Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development and Council of Smaller Enterprises (COSE) to offer a unique benefit option for small businesses like yours. The COSE Benefit Plan is a multiple employer welfare arrangement (MEWA) that allows businesses of 1–50 to experience rate stability, savings and the same great health benefits that large corporations have. Bundle your health plan with our dental, vision or life plans for a fully integrated benefits package.

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# Thank you to our renewing members!

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Stanley Black & Decker Outdoor

## BOOST & EXCEL

Ritter's Office Outfitters

Sam's Club #6407

TE Connectivity

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104.5 The River

Allure Studios Hair and Day Spa

Culligan Quality Water of North Central Ohio

Glen's Surplus Sales, Inc

Lloyd Rebar Company LLC

Mansfield Technologies

Pinnacle Advisors

Quality Inn & Suites Conference Center

Richland Sealcoating Company Inc

## ENGAGE & CONNECT

179th Cyberspace Wing

419 Barbershop

American Red Cross in Richland County

Apple Hill Orchards

Ashland University Dwight Schar College of Nursing and Health Sciences

Barrister Title Group, LLC

Blanton's Automotive

Bob and Bob Door Co LLC

Brown and Blaze Outfitters Wildlife Removal Solutions

Catalyst Life Services

City Grille

Clever's Quality 1st Renovations LLC

Cosam Contracting Inc

Crossroads Factory Store

Darmak Trucking Inc

Dynamic Dental Specialists LLC

Eurofins Drinking Water & Wastewater Central, LLC

Glo Fiber Business

Hardline Heavy Equipment Solutions LLC.

Honeyville Garden Events and Rentals

Janice Darmody, e-Merge Real Estate Champions

Lori Holden Sjostedt, KW Legacy Group Realty

Mansfield Memorial Homes

McIntosh Reserve Condominiums

Millstone Hills Golf Course

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NCS Advertising & Design

New Directions EAP & Counseling Center

Nicholls Furniture Express

OneTable Strategy

Oyster Pavement Maintenance, Inc.

Pinhook Meats

Reining Painters Ltd

Richland Carrousel Park Inc

Richland County Youth & Family Council

Rotary Club of Mansfield #3487

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Scott Farm Condo Association

ScottRods

Studio 19 Salon & Spa

Swept Away Cleaning LLC

Thermo Tec High Performance Automotive

Town Money Saver

Two Men and a Truck

Ultimate Veteran Adventures

United Way of Richland County

Universal Church Directories

Wise Funeral Service

Y-Not Cycling



**Interested in enhancing your member benefits?**

Contact Jennifer at (419) 522-3211, or [jwagner@richlandareachamber.com](mailto:jwagner@richlandareachamber.com)

# APRIL MEMORABLE MOMENTS



Women's Leadership Connection, Nicole Derr



Discover Richland: Harvest Horizons Tour



NCSC Hall of Excellence



Discover Richland: Harvest Horizons Tour

# APRIL RIBBON CUTTINGS



**PATH Behavioral Healthcare**  
Grand opening



**Pioneer Career & Technology Center**  
Unveiling of Advanced Manufacturing Center

# TEAM APPRECIATION DAY





## Edge Plastics Inc.

Edge Plastics Inc. produces high quality storage containers in our factory in Mansfield, Ohio. Our products are used in a wide variety of colors and sizes. Because of our attention to quality, competitive pricing and reliable service we are the manufacturer of choice many big box retailers in the United States and Canada. We continue to grow our investment in improving factory facilities, capacities and adding robotic palletization equipment. We are proud of our employees and products. Check out all of our products at [www.edgeplasticsinc.com](http://www.edgeplasticsinc.com)



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## LADDER SAFETY AT WORK

Ladders are widely used in workplaces, but improper use can cause serious injuries. OSHA outlines ladder safety standards for General Industry and Construction. Common accidents result from unstable placement, overreaching, carrying tools while climbing, and failing to maintain three points of contact.

Always choose the correct ladder type and height for the job, and use fiberglass ladders near electrical hazards. Before use, inspect ladders for damage, ensure they are set on firm, level ground, and follow the 4-to-1 rule for extension ladders. Extend ladders at least three feet above landing surfaces.

Climb facing the ladder, maintain three points of contact, and use tool belts or ropes to move tools. Employers should provide regular ladder safety training.

Proper ladder selection, inspection, and use can greatly reduce fall risks and injuries. To learn more about Sedgwick's safety services or to schedule a confidential consultation, please contact Andy Sawan at [andrew.sawan@sedgwick.com](mailto:andrew.sawan@sedgwick.com) or 330-819-4728.



# UPCOMING EVENTS




**BUSINESS  
AFTER  
HOURS**

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Excellence in Outdoor Advertising

MAY 21, 2026 | 4-6 PM  
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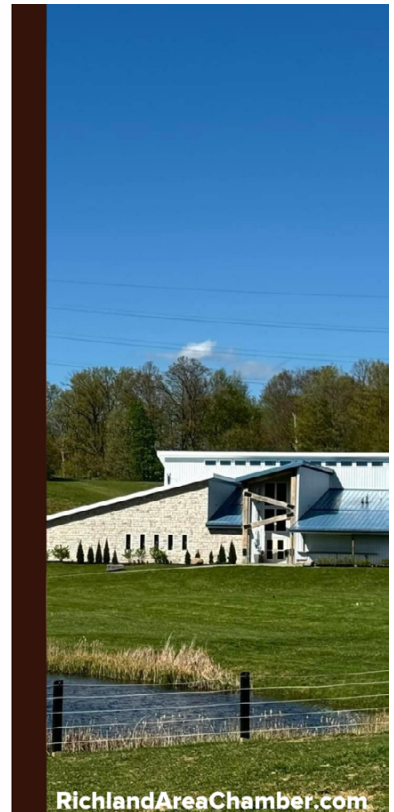
When: Friday, June 25, 2026  
8 - 9 AM

Where: The Blueberry Patch  
1285 Hanley Rd W,  
Mansfield, OH 44904

Why: Coffee, connections...  
and did we mention coffee???



SCAN ME



RichlandAreaChamber.com



# SECOND CHANCES, STRONGER COMMUNITIES. A Morning with Damon West.

National Speaker & Author of "Be a Coffee Bean"

Wednesday, August 5, 2026 • 9:00 – 10:30 AM EDT  
Historic Ohio State Reformatory

## ABOUT THE SPEAKER

**Damon West** is an internationally known keynote speaker, 4-time bestselling author, and former crime boss in Dallas who was sentenced to life in prison for organized crime. USA Today calls him the "modern day Shawshank Redemption and the most in-demand speaker in America." After a spiritual awakening during incarceration, Damon emerged from over seven years in prison a changed man. His story is one of hope, redemption, grit, and the resilience of the human spirit.

The World Is a Pot of Boiling Water. You Have 3 Choices:

### THE CARROT

Goes in strong, comes out soft and weak.

### THE EGG

Goes in soft, comes out hard and mean.

### THE COFFEE BEAN

Changes the water around it — positive impact.

BE THE COFFEE BEAN.

REGISTER NOW

Purchase a ticket and receive a FREE copy of *Be a Coffee Bean!*



## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### PLATINUM \$5,000

- 8 tickets to the event
- Opportunity to address the audience for 1 minute
- Business logo on all event advertising (large)
- Business logo on our event webpage
- Business logo in Chamber Newsletter
- Business logo on social media posts
- Business logo on membership emails advertising the event
- Table sign with corporate logo
- Verbal recognition from the podium at the event

### GOLD \$2,500

- 6 tickets to the event
- Business logo on all event advertising (medium)
- Business logo on our event webpage
- Business logo in Chamber Newsletter
- Business logo on social media posts
- Business logo on membership emails advertising the event
- Table sign with corporate logo
- Verbal recognition from the podium at the event

### SILVER \$1,000

- 4 tickets to the event
- Business name on all event advertising
- Business name on our event webpage
- Business logo in Chamber Newsletter
- Business name on membership emails advertising the event
- Verbal recognition from the podium at the event

### BRONZE \$500

- 2 tickets to the event
- Business name on our event webpage
- Business name in Chamber Newsletter
- Verbal recognition from the podium at the event

Interested in sponsoring?

Contact Lisa Duckworth:  
lduckworth@richlandareachamber.com

Strong Business. Strong Community.  
Richland Area Chamber & Economic Development

# GOLF Classic



## Remaining GOLF SPONSORSHIPS

Monday, June 15  
at Westbrook Country Club

Presented by:



Golf Gift Sponsor



Nibble on the  
Front Nine Sponsor



Tee-Off Tipple Bar  
Sponsor



Bourbon on the  
Back Nine Sponsor



Golf Cart  
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Jumbotron  
Sponsor



Golf Ball  
Sponsor



Driving Range  
Sponsor



Flag Sponsor



Premier Sponsors



## TEAM SPOTS SOLD OUT BUT SPONSORSHIPS STILL AVAILABLE

### AVAILABLE!

#### Lunch Sponsor

\$500

- Company logo on signage at the lunch pavilion
- Opportunity to have table to interact w/ golfers at lunch
- Logo & link on event webpage & Chamber social media
- Company logo in the tournament program
- Opportunity to include item in golfers' goodie bag

#### Proximity Contest Sponsors

\$150

- Signage on course at designated hole / winner receives prize courtesy of your business
- Name & link on event webpage
- Company name in the tournament program
- Opportunity to include item in golfers' goodie bag

#### Breakfast Sponsors

\$300

- Company logo on signage at the breakfast pavilion
- Logo & link on event webpage
- Company logo in the tournament program
- Opportunity to include item in golfers' goodie bag

#### Hole and/or Tee Sponsors

\$200 or 2 for \$350

- Logo on sign at designated hole or tee
- Company name on event webpage
- Company name in the tournament program
- Opportunity to include item in golfers' goodie bag

All levels also include verbal recognition at dinner



Presenting Sponsor



Program Day Sponsor



Leadership Unlimited class members explored housing from every angle in April, gaining a deeper understanding of how development, planning, revitalization, and human needs intersect across Richland County. The day helped illuminate the systems, challenges, and opportunities shaping our region's housing future.



Blue Door Development gave the group a tour of a Hyacinth Court Condominium unit on Trimble Road.



Downtown Mansfield, Inc. (DMI) gave a walking tour of downtown upper-floor housing.



The class toured The Voegele Historic Lofts: Downtown Mansfield Apartments.



Jessica Gribben and Jotika Shetty shared comprehensive countywide housing data.



Representatives from the Mansfield Metropolitan Housing Authority, Wayfinders, and the Area Agency on Aging discussed the housing programs they offer and how each organization works to meet the needs of their clients.



Shrock Premier Custom Construction gave a tour of a home in the Urban Meadows Bellville development.



Donnie Clark and Steve Haring, discussed the Bellville's Valley View Farm Development.



# A WestingHOUSE Party



*Mansfield's next chapter is here.*  
A WestingHOUSE Party celebrates the cleanup milestone and invites everyone to help build what's next.

## SCHEDULE SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2026 10am–10pm

### 🍴 FOOD TRUCKS: ALL DAY

### 👨👩 CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL: 10am–1pm

- ➔ Vendors such as the Buckeye Imagination Museum, United Way's Big Red Bookshelf, Mansfield/Richland County Public Library, and more will provide family-friendly activities.
- ➔ The Performance Dogs of Ohio will provide entertainment at 10:00am and 12:00pm.
- ➔ The Mansfield Fire Department will have a children's firefighter training course.
- ➔ Interactive activities such as bounce houses, a dunk tank, yard games, and more!

### 🏐 VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT: 10am–4pm

- ➔ \$25 per player
- ➔ Minimum of 5 games guaranteed
- ➔ Winners receive an event shirt and a tournament trophy
- ➔ Register now: [ohiosocialsports.com/registration](https://ohiosocialsports.com/registration)



VOLLEYBALL REGISTRATION

### 🛹 SKATE OHIO! ATTACK THE SPOT: 2pm–6pm

### 🎵 MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT: 6pm–10pm

- ➔ Shucking Bubba: 8pm–10pm
- ➔ Fireworks: At Dusk

*Learn more at:* [brandrichland.com/a-westinghouse-party](https://brandrichland.com/a-westinghouse-party)

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <b>LOCATION</b>  | <b>DATE &amp; TIME</b>                     |  |
| Former Westinghouse Site,<br>200 E. Fifth St., Mansfield, OH | Saturday, June 13, 2026<br>10:00am–10:00pm |  |

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## SELLING OR BUYING A BUSINESS? WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW!

When a business is sold, purchased, or merged, both parties must notify the Ohio BWC. Claims experience may transfer to the new owner.

### For Buyers (Successor Employers):

- New employers must file [form U-3](#).
- Existing employers must file [form U-118](#).
- To keep the seller's active policy, successors without coverage may file [form U-115](#).
- Buyers can request the seller's workers' compensation history and liabilities using [form AC-4](#), signed by both parties.

### For Sellers (Predecessor Employers):

- After notifying BWC and requesting cancellation, final payroll true-up reporting is due within 45 days.
- If only part of the business is sold and operations remain active, do not cancel coverage; file form U-118 instead.

To learn more, visit the [Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation](#). Questions? Contact Sedgwick program manager Dave Deyo at 614-318-5516 or [david.deyo@sedgwick.com](mailto:david.deyo@sedgwick.com).

sedgwick 

# UPCOMING CHAMBER EVENTS

Register for these events **HERE** or visit our event calendar at **richlandareachamber.com**

- 05/15/26 Cleveland Guardians Baseball Trip
- 05/21/26 Business After Hours, Lind Media, 4-6pm
- 06/11/26 Leadership Unlimited Alumni Dinner & Class of 2026 Commencement, DLX, 5:30-7:30pm
- 06/15/26 Chamber Golf Classic, Westbrook Country Club
- 06/25/26 Chamber Coffee Hosted by Directions Credit Union, The Blueberry Patch, 8-9am
- 08/05/26 Second Chances. Stronger Communities. A Morning with Damon West, Historic Ohio State Reformatory, 9am-10:30am
- 10/22/26 Savor & Sip, Mid Ohio Conference Center, 5-7:30pm
- 12/08/26 Small Business of the Year Awards, Kehoe Center, 11:30am-1:30pm



## eRecycling

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